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The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

TUESDAY | 3.25.08

VOL. 95 | ISSUE 50

UNIVERSITY | GREEK LIFE

Director of Greek Life reassigned

Student Affairs will create team to manage Dudolski's responsibilities

By Nora Maberry
News Editor

Bob Dudolski has been removed as Eastern's Director of Greek Life.

Eastern made an internal reassignment, said Dan Nadler, vice president for student affairs. Nadler said that Dudolski did not quit.

"Bob will be working on special projects for the foreseeable future within the Division of Student Affairs," Nadler said.

Nadler said Dudolski will be working on special projects at least through the end of the spring semester.

The office of Student Affairs is currently working on putting a team together to cover the responsibilities of the Director of Greek Life, Nadler said.

"There are no other plans or additional information to share at this time," Nadler said.

Dudolski currently teaches a 3000-level student leadership course and serves as the Grand Council National Vice President for Delta Sigma Phi National Fraternity.

Dudolski has been Director of Greek Life since 2000, when he acted as interim Director of Greek Life when the previous director, Rebecca Marushak, moved to Arizona.

Dudolski served as Acting Assistant Director of Student Life from 1999-2000 and Greek Court Associate Resident Director from 1996-1999.

The Director of Greek Life oversees 25 Greek Letter organizations on Eastern's campus. The director coordinates and supervises 11 staff members and advises Greek students in developing new academic, recruitment, standards and services programs.

Nora Maberry can be reached at 581-7942 or at nemaberry@eiu.edu.



Bob Dudolski,
Director of
Greek life

CAMPUS | STUDENT GOVERNMENT

A DISAPPEARING COURT

The Student Supreme Court has not met since last fall, raising questions about its effectiveness

By Rick Kambic
Student Government Reporter

The Student Supreme Court has not met since last fall and does not have all its members to properly function.

Student Body President Cole Rogers said he has not replaced Keith Darby, the associate justice who resigned in December to register for the Student Senate elections.

The Student Government Constitution requires the student body president to appoint justices to two-year terms that do not conflict with any other Student Government position. A two-thirds vote within the senate is needed to confirm the appointments.

"The Student Supreme Court shall be the court of original and final jurisdiction in cases involving constitutional matters regarding student organizations, and shall have original and final jurisdiction in cases involving the student Bill of Rights," the constitution reads.

The court is thereby authorized to settle disputes regarding bylaws and constitutions of any student organization.

Rogers said the most common references to the court would pertain to senate election issues, infractions of the Student Government constitution and discrepancies with voted resolutions.

"I met with Jarryd (Stalling) at the beginning of the (academic) year and everything was fine," Rogers said. "We just haven't really needed them this year."

Jarryd Stalling is the chief justice of the court. Calls and e-mails sent to Stalling were not returned.

Former Student Body President Sean Anderson appointed Stalling when the court was re-established in April 2007. To avoid confusion when representatives leave office and new officers enter, he set the appointment process to occur at the beginning of the spring term.

He said every student body president would appoint three justices a year because each term is two years. To make sure the court is ready for any situations, Anderson said he met with them at least once a month.



KARLA BROWNING | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Keith Darby is sworn in as a Student Senate member during the Student Government meeting on Jan. 23. Darby, a former associate justice on the Student Supreme Court, resigned from the court in December 2007 to run for the senate position. This left the court with a vacancy it has yet to fill. Student Government is in charge of appointing court members, but has not appointed a replacement for Darby.

"The responsibility of making sure (the court) is up and running is (Cole Rogers)," Anderson said. "If it's not running right, it's his fault."

To avoid a conflict of interest, the court reports directly to Dan Nadler, vice president for Student Affairs. He said the senate has the responsibility to make Rogers keep up with his appointments.

"I haven't been following Student Government lately, but I'm pretty disappointed that myself and others put countless hours and months into (rebuilding the court) and it's not even there anymore," Anderson said.

Director of Student Life Ceci Brinker is also the Student Government and University Board adviser. She said it would be inappropriate for her to advise both Student Government and the Student Supreme Court.

Nadler said the court has been trying to find itself in recent years, but there haven't been any issues for them to resolve.

The constitution says after complaints are filed with the court, the adviser decides whether to pass them along to the chief justice. Any student can file a complaint.

» SEE COURT, PAGE 5

UNIVERSITY | FINANCE



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY BRYCE PEAKE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Office of Philanthropy hopes to raise at least \$40 million with its next capital campaign. President Bill Perry will create a campaign committee this summer.

New campaign to bring in funds

Money will be used to support Perry's goals of 'best in class' for Eastern

By Stephen Di Benedetto
Associate News Editor

A new fundraising campaign may bring in more than \$40 million for improvement projects on campus.

The Office of Philanthropy is developing plans for Eastern's major comprehensive capital campaign, which is likely to raise a minimum of \$40 million, said Karla Evans, director of the Office of Philanthropy.

She said President Bill Perry will put

together a steering committee for the campaign during the summer, with the committee tentatively slated to meet for the first time in September.

Evans added the specific objectives of the campaign are still being developed, but said the overall objective would be to support Perry's goal of making Eastern best in class in integrating the academic and personal development of students.

Perry listed that overall goal in his January campus-wide e-mail, which outlined what he wants achieved during his time as president of Eastern.

"Any project that comes out of this campaign will be to achieve that objective," Evans said.

She said the money the campaign raises

might go to capital projects around campus such as building projects. Evans added planning for the campaign is slow because the office is waiting for academic departments to develop projects.

The money raised might also go to endowment growth, Evans said.

She said the time frame of the campaign is being tentatively planned, but added the campaign could last for five to seven years. Evans said.

The steering committee will be comprised of around 25 individuals of influence and affluence of Eastern who will help the university raise money for the campaign, Evans said.

» SEE CAPITAL, PAGE 5

EIU WEATHER

TUESDAY  58° 40° Overcast SW 15-25 mph	WEDNESDAY  54° 43°
THURSDAY  56° 42°	WEATHER BRIEF Warmer and very windy today with gusts up to 35 mph at times. Mostly Cloudy skies will continue the rest of this week with a chance for showers and thunderstorms Wednesday night through Friday.

For current conditions visit EIU WeatherCenter at www.eiu.edu/~weather

ENTERTAINMENT | A DAILY LOOK

Rowling reveals she once had 'suicidal thoughts'

The Associated Press

LONDON — J.K. Rowling said she contemplated suicide as she suffered from depression before her rise to success, according to an interview with a student journalist.

The "Harry Potter" author said she had suicidal thoughts in her mid-20s, when she was a single mother and struggling to establish a literary career.

"Mid-20s life circumstances were poor and I really plummeted," Rowling said, according to an interview posted online by student journalist Adeel Amini.

Rowling said in the interview, parts of which were published in Edinburgh University's Student magazine, that she sought help from doctors and spent nine months receiving cognitive behavioral therapy, according to Amini.

"We're talking suicidal thoughts here, we're not talking, 'I'm a little bit miserable,'" Rowling, 42, said.

Rowling has previously said she suffered depression before her "Harry Potter" series brought her international success. She has acknowledged that characters featured in the series called Dementors were inspired by her illness.

"I have never been remotely ashamed of having been depressed. Never," Rowling said. "What's to be ashamed of? I went through a really rough time and I am quite proud that I got out of that."

B.B. King buys landmark juke joint in hometown

INDIANOLA, Miss. — B.B. King is the new owner of a juke joint in his Mississippi Delta hometown.

Mary Shepard has owned Club Ebony in Indianola for the past three decades.

King and other artists have played there throughout the years.

A Mississippi Delta Blues Trail Marker outside Club Ebony says Count Basie, Ray Charles, James

Brown and Ike Turner are among the musicians who have played there since 1945. Shepard says she sold the club to the bluesman because she wants to relax and spend time with her family.

Longtime Beatles friend, business associate dies

NEW YORK — Neil Aspinall, a longtime friend of the Beatles who managed their business enterprises and helped make the group a money-making phenomenon decades after they split up, has died. He was 66.

Aspinall's death was announced Monday in a statement from surviving Beatles Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, the widows of John Lennon and George Harrison, and the band's company Apple Corps Ltd.

Aspinall died at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, where he had been receiving treatment. He was a childhood friend of McCartney and Harrison in Liverpool, England.

PHOTO OF THE DAY

The beat of another drum



BRYCE PEAKE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman music majors Darek Mix and Matt Brown practice outside of McAfee Gymnasium Monday afternoon.

WHAT THE... | WEIRD, UNEXPECTED, BIZARRE NEWS

Message in a bottle ends up in Alaska 21 years later

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Merle Brandell and his black lab Slapsey were beachcombing along the Bering Sea when he spied a plastic bottle among the Japanese glass floats he often finds along the shore.

He walked over and saw an envelope tucked inside. After slicing the bottle open, Brandell found a message from an elementary school student in a suburb of Seattle. About 21 years passed between the time Emily Hwaung put the message in a soda bottle and Merle Brandell picked it up on the beach.

"This letter is part of our science project to study oceans and learn about people in distant lands," she wrote.

Brandell tried to track down the sender: a fourth grader from the North City School in the Shoreline School District. No one answered when Brandell called the school in December so he sent a letter, which ended up on the desk of district spokesman Craig Degginger.

After some searching, Degginger discovered Hwaung is now a 30-year-old accountant named Emily Shih and lives in Seattle. She was in the fourth grade during the 1986-87 school year at a school building that closed more than a year ago.

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ABOUT THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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COMMENTS / TIPS

Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.

You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

CORRECTIONS

The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible.

To aid the Daily Eastern News in its quest for accuracy, please report any factual error you find in any edition of the Daily Eastern News by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY **UBO CONCERTS**

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• **Exclusive package** - While there are troops still stationed in Iraq five years after the war began, some students are beginning to stand against the war. Last week, five days of protest were held that climaxed with a student walk-out and an open mic. Get all the highlights with a Web site dedicated only to this event at <http://www.eiu.edu/~den/interactive/protestsforspeace>.

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CAMPUS | NOTEBOOK

Improvements green-lighted

Capital Development Board tells Eastern to proceed with projects

By Ashley Mefford and Jeff Racic
Staff Reporters

An elevator project can now get started on again.

It has been on hold since November 2003, said campus architect Steve Shrake.

The project involves more than just elevators.

Also included are: elevators in the Student Services Building and McAfee Gymnasium; toilet renovations in the Student Services Building and the Multi-Culture Center; an accessible ramp for the Multi-Culture Center; automatic door operators for Tarble Arts Center and Buzzard Hall; and fire alarm upgrades in the Facilities Planning & Management buildings were all included.

The elevator project designs for McAfee and the Student Services buildings were complete and ready to bid when the project funding to construct the work was suspended by the State of Illinois, said Gary Reed, director of Facilities Planning and Management.

While funding was stopped, other obstacles limited construction on the project.

Electrical and building codes have changed since the designs were first drafted.

"This work was part of a larger state-wide compliance improvements initiative managed by the Capital Development Board," Reed said. "We were recently advised by the CDB that this project could now proceed."

With the designs being years old, it was essential to review them.

"This ensures the work meets current applicable codes and standards which may have changed since the original design date," Reed said.

Capital Development Board is negotiating a contract modification with the architect to get the project moving. That project is not specific to elevators, but includes new elevators in McAfee and Student Service Building, Shrake said.



JOHN BAILEY | DAILY EASTERN NEWS

A group of Eastern students usher in and out of an elevator in the south tower of Carman Hall on Monday night.

Eastern's cars go Green

Facilities Planning and Management is going green.

Facilities was the first on campus to experiment with environmentally friendly vehicles. Currently, they have many environmentally friendly cars in the Eastern fleet including two Priuses and one electric car.

The Prius is a hybrid electric car that combines a conventional propulsion system with an on-board rechargeable energy storage system.

An electric car uses chemical energy stores in rechargeable battery packs, electric motors and motor controllers.

Additionally, Facilities also has several 3-cylinder all-terrain vehicles that the grounds crew uses.

"These all-terrain vehicles are more environmentally sound than the pick-up trucks they used to use," said Ryan Siegel, campus energy and sustainability coordinator.

The effort to have cars go "green" has been going on for about a year and a half.

Siegel is the chair of the Energy and Sustainability Committee. The committee meets quarterly and discusses ways the university could be more environmentally sound.

The group supported the more environmentally friendly cars.

"Small vehicles and alternative fuel is the types of cars we are trying to get more of," Siegel said.

Currently, Facilities has requested one more environmentally sound car. Eastern's locksmith would use the car. One of the Prius' that Facilities has is rented out to departments, Siegel said.

Currently, it is used by the athletic department. The women's basketball team is using the car and keeping mileage. The mileage is kept in an effort to compare this car with a car less environmentally efficient.

Woman's basketball Head Coach Brady Saltee said the team has used the Prius for a couple of years. Assistant Coach for the women's basketball team, Quacy Timmons, drives the car. The car is used for recruiting trips.

"It's very economical, it gets 41 miles to the gallon," Timmons said.

Cars are not the only way the campus is going "green."

Waste oil from dining services is used to make bio diesel fuel.

"It is possible to take waste oil from the dining services and add methanol and turn it into bio diesel," Siegel said. "The bio diesel produced reduces emissions."

Students urged to avoid procrastination

The Academic Success Center is offering students study tips as finals approach.

Taisha Mikell, Student Success Specialist at the Center, said students struggle with time management.

If students haven't been doing what they should be doing, the struggle increases, Mikell said.

Mikell said that students should spend an hour a day on school work to avoid time management problems.

"Kick it into gear as the year goes on," Mikell said. "Seven hours a week is a lot, and by breaking things into smaller chunks it helps students remember what they need to."

Brian Gorman, graduate assistant at the Student Success Center agreed with Mikell.

"If a student doesn't understand an assignment they put it off," Gorman said. "Ask questions early. Students are too afraid to ask instructors, and they don't realize that they are allies."

Students that go to the success center said the tips they offer were helpful.

"Once I sat down and followed through with some of those study tips, I felt like I was making huge progress," said Jeremy Wiora, a sophomore marketing major.

Ashley Mefford can be reached at almefford@eiu.edu or 581-7942.

Jeff Racic can be reached at jjracic@eiu.edu or 581-7942.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Blood drive on campus today

A blood drive by the American Red Cross will be held today from 1 to 7 p.m. in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The blood drive is sponsored by Eastern's ROTC, and all people who donate will receive a T-shirt.

Cap and gown order deadline next Monday

Graduating seniors have less than a week to order cap and gowns for spring commencement exercises. The deadline to order cap and gowns for the May 3 ceremonies is next Monday.

To order cap and gowns, go to www.eiu.edu/~commence. All orders need to be made by 11:59 p.m. as of next Monday.

Biggest Baby Shower on Campus tonight

As part of Eastern's "One Campus/One Community" service event, Eastern will host the "Biggest Baby Shower on Campus" tonight from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Donated items to assist infants and toddlers will be accepted by four local organizations: Crisis Pregnancy, Kids Hope United, Women, Infants and Children, and Hope of East Central Illinois.

Representatives from all these agencies will be present at the event.

Communications CEO to speak tonight

Consolidated Communications CEO and President Bob Currey will speak tonight in a keynote lecture titled "Consolidated Communications: From Gorilla to Guerrilla."

The lecture is part of the School of Business' Executive-in-Residence Program. The program is used to motivate students, while allowing business executives to explain to students what they expect from professional employees and what skills they are seeking from graduates.

Currey's keynote starts at 6:30 p.m. in Robertson Auditorium in Lumpkin Hall. The lecture is open to the public.

Book discussion groups today and Wednesday

Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs, will moderate a book discussion group today at 4 p.m. about the book "Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything," by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner.

William Weber, associate vice president for academic affairs, and Linda Ghent, associate professor of economics, will moderate the discussion about the same book on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

The event is free to the public and will be held in Conference Room 4400 of Booth Library.

-Compiled by Editor in Chief Matt Daniels

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor in Chief, **Matt Daniels**, via: **Phone | 581-7936, E-mail | DENeic@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall**

CAMPUS | PANEL

Answering 'who owns women's bodies?'

Panel discusses rights of women worldwide throughout history

Karla Browning
Staff Reporter

Lynn Curry said states have the power to regulate people's bodies in cases like vaccination as long as the state is protecting other people from harm. Curry, a history professor, explained this at the Monday panel discussion "Who Owns Women's Bodies? Lessons for History."

"If Eastern was to develop smallpox, the state has the right to act upon it to prevent the spread of the virus," Curry said.

Curry was one of four to discuss problems with body images that have occurred in recent history at the panel that was part of Women's History and Awareness Month.

The topics discussed included abortion, prostitution, women in the work force and cosmetic images.

Curry brought up the point that if the government overturned *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion in the U.S., the country would go back to the way it was before.

"If we bring states back in, are we opening a door to say a woman is required to have an abortion?" Curry said.

History professor Sace Elder was also a panelist, and she discussed the regulation of prostitution in 19th and 20th century Europe.

Elder brought up the issue that prostitution was legal in Europe as long as women registered.

However, Elder said when they registered, they were signing away their bodies.

"Forcing women to register was a violation of women's liberties," Elder said.

Many people in the audience agreed.

"It was interesting to learn that prostitution was legal, but there was a 'but' that went along with it," said Morgan Prestage, a senior political science major.

As for women in the work force, history professor Ruth Fairbanks brought up the time in history when the Fetal Protection Policy went into effect to help protect pregnant women from being harmed in the work place.

She explained how all women were given limited hours when men's hours were not limited because one day the women may have a child.

However, she said that if the work was harmful to women's bodies that the work was also harmful to men's bodies as well.

As a result, the state then took men's health into consideration as well as women's.

The cosmetic images of Eastern Asian women was a topic introduced by Jinhee Lee, a panelist and history professor.

She discussed how many more Asian-American women were changing their appearances to gain higher positions in the work place because they would look more beautiful and then gain a better job.

"Many women were relying on physical appearances rather than on other appearances for upward nobilities in the work place," Lee said.

Curry explained that a choice is something related to a consumer item as apposed to the rights in the Constitution and if people look at these issues like that, then maybe they could answer the question, "who owns women's bodies?"

Karla Browning can be reached at 581-7942 or at kmbrowning@eiu.edu.

The DAILY
EASTERN NEWS
“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

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WHERE TO STUDY ABROAD?

Carnegie Mellon U. – When I stumbled upon a study abroad program in Havana, Cuba, I knew I couldn’t pass it up. I’d like to share some of the insights into Cuban life and culture I’ve gained so far.

The Cuban economy is interesting because it has its roots in the social breakdown of the country. Cuban citizens make on average 600 Cuban pesos per month, which is less than \$25. So, the Cuban government instituted a separate dollar system for tourists in November 2004 – the convertible peso – that is approximately the same value as the U.S. dollar.

Despite the economic separation between foreigners and Cubans, most locals will be happy to sit down and talk about anything and everything related to Cuba. Whether it’s over a beer or a game of dominoes – two big pastimes here – Cuban people are interested in what you have to say about America, what you like about Cuba and even how you got here. They are equally happy to talk about their own opinions of the country and ideas about the future.

The severe poverty that sweeps through Cuba is, not surprisingly, a byproduct of Cuba’s government and its allocation of money. The first thing that many people say when they look at socialism in Cuba is, “Well, at least Cubans get free education and free health care.” This is undeniable, but if you look closer at the situation you begin to see flaws. In the education system, for example, teachers are frequently unqualified, and are often as young as 16 years old.

Though Havana – and Cuba in general – has political and economic complications, it is culturally a breathtaking city. Most days and nights feature a fabulous cultural event at an equally fabulous venue. What is amazing about Havana is how frequently different components of the art world combine.

Matt Siffert
The Tartan

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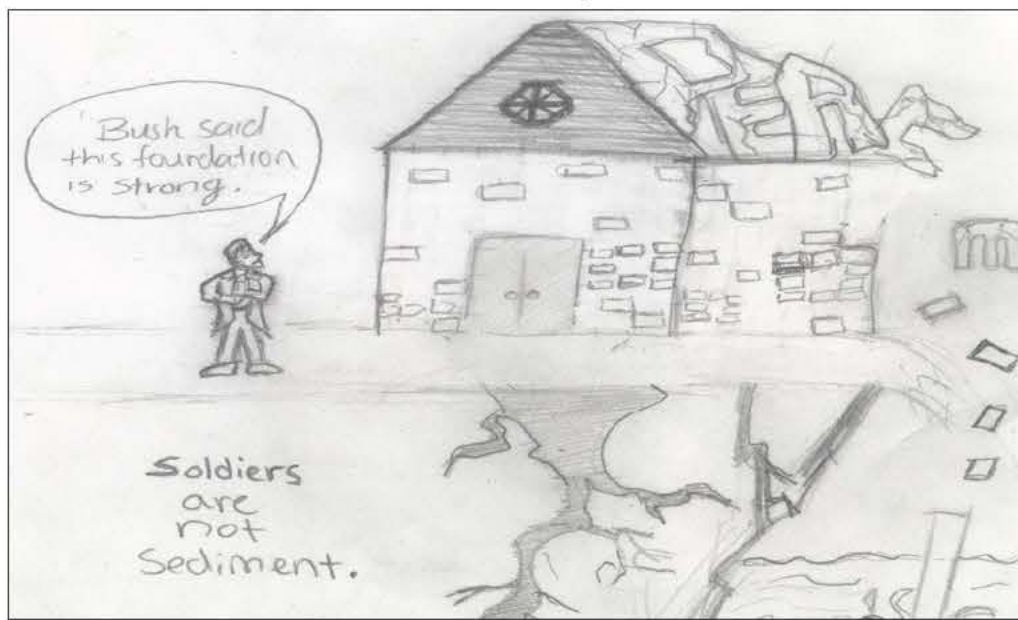
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The DEN’s policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words. Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submitted electronically from the author’s EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

Drawn from the news | Adam Tedder



STAFF EDITORIAL

Comments worthy of a name

Tim Couch, a state representative in Kentucky’s 90th District, filed a bill to make it mandatory for people to register before posting comments on a blog.

Couch recently said he was not pursuing the bill because he was unsure if such a bill would be legal.

“The way I was looking at it, people who say something bad should have the guts to have their names attached,” he said.

The bill would have required anyone who wants to leave a comment on a Web site to register with a real name, address and e-mail address with the Web site. People would be expected to use their real name whenever they commented. Web site operators who would not abide by the law would be fined \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for any additional violation.

While the proposed bill is ridiculous, and practically unenforceable, the idea behind it is valid.

People commenting on Web sites should put their full names on comments.

While some argue that making users register before commenting on blogs would limit user interaction, people taking accountability for their comments would limit libelous attacks that are sometimes made on Web site forums.

Authors of blogs put their names on the articles they write. Reporters put a byline.

OUR VIEW

• **Situation:** Kentucky state representative wants to pass a bill requiring full-name disclosure on user comments.

• **Stance:** This move is unenforceable, but it would help solve the problem of people lying, bullying or making libelous comments.

This action offers accountability for the items that are written. Users who use comment forums should do the same. Asking users to put their full name on comments is not limiting free speech, it is asking people to be responsible for their words and actions.

Opponents claim that asking Internet users to post their real names would be like asking George Elliot to write under her real name Mary Ann Evans.

Comparing this to the plight of women authors in the 1800s is illogical.

Many Web site users comment on articles or blog entries using nicknames or post pretending to be other people. Evans used a pen name in order for her works to be published.

No one is limiting anyone’s right to publish comments.

What should be limited is the right of people to publish comments anonymously with no ramifications for libelous, bullying or just plain false comments.

Consider this for next semester

Last Thursday, Student Government agreed to pay junior rhetoric major Scott Murray \$500 for his advertising work for the organization. Murray has been working with Student Government all semester, helping with projects like Maybury DOA, the shuttle bus program and Winter Wonderland.

Student Senate Speaker Megan Ogulnick said, “I wouldn’t have asked Scott to help and put the senate through this if I didn’t think we needed the help.” And it’s obvious if Student Government wants to continue hosting events – such as Winter Wonderland – they’re going to need more advertising.

But it’s awfully late in the semester to be appointing new positions. With only five weeks to go, we wonder why the advertising position is being applied now.

We’re happy that Murray is being compensated for the work he’s contributed to Student Government – but he should have been hired toward the beginning of the semester. It would have saved everyone involved the headache from the frustrating hiring process.

Hiring an art student or advertising major to do the work for work free of charge was hardly considered because senate members were afraid the work would have been sloppy.

But Murray said he found the whole hiring situation to be frustrating, mostly because he was

OUR VIEW

• **Situation:** Student Government is hiring someone to do its advertising with only five weeks left in the semester.

• **Stance:** The hiring should have been done at the beginning of the semester when different options could have been considered.

one of the last people to find out whether or not he would be compensated for his previous work with Student Government.

But Student Government has now set a precedent for future semesters – it costs \$10 an hour. It will be difficult to find someone to hire someone in the future for anything less.

Student Government could have tried to apply their advertising projects into graphic design or art curriculums.

They could ask the Web design teachers to apply Student Government’s Web site into their curriculum.

Students taking these classes need to design something, and what better way to utilize the unique resources a university offers? Their advertising then would be free.

Before Student Government scurries to hire someone next semester, we hope it takes these things into consideration.

Until then, do the hiring a little sooner and save everyone the fuss.



CONTINUE THE DEBATE
ONLINE
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-Chris Essig



LAUREN DAVIDSON

Eleven years of
‘South Park’

The newest season of “South Park” kicked off two weeks ago and no one should be too surprised that it was controversial. But was it as brilliant as usual?

From Satan to stem cell research, Matt Stone and Trey Parker don’t use much discretion when it comes to their topics.

And until recently, their irreverent novel took on current issues and rarely failed to bring a solid balance of laughter and insight.

There was something about the way they went about making their deeply political statements that made a lot of people forget how totally inappropriate the episodes really were.

Take, for example the fourth episode of season five. Overall, it was a comment on certain dangers of organized religion.

Getting that message across involved creating a team of prominent figures from the most influential world religions working together against a dangerous suicide cult. The “Super Best Friends,” as the team was called, was compiled of Jesus, Joseph Smith, Krishna, Lao Zi, Moses and Muhammad.

The episode aired five years before the huge cartoon controversy over visual depictions of Muhammad that were offensive to Muslims – but did anyone mind when “South Park” did it? No.

And why? Probably because, unlike the infamous cartoons that got that Danish newspaper into so much trouble, this episode wasn’t trying to get its humor from simply “being edgy.” It was a hysterical episode that really got at a bigger issue about coming together and not letting religion control or ruin your life (which was, of course, spoken over the trademark sappy piano music).

I’m not feeling the same touch of magic in this season. Having Britney Spears blow her own head off with a shotgun out of paparazzi frustration in last week’s episode was obviously shocking and edgy. But something about the construction of the episode felt annoyingly preachy.

I agree that we’ve pushed Spears too far, but it could have used a few more laughs in there. Instead, it was just plain depressing. Maybe that’s what they think it will take to get the message across, but they’ve handled more important and pressing issues than Spears’ mental health and still managed to get some laughs.

Also, the episode did something that I’ve been seeing in other recent episodes: Some huge national or global conspiracy gets revealed in the last five minutes to justify the events of the rest of the episode.

In this episode, the big conspiracy was that human sacrifice is as old as dirt, but now we do it by driving celebrities crazy on purpose so we can be entertained by their slow downfall. It felt really formulaic. Still, it contained the only decent joke of the episode, which was that out of nowhere everyone would start doing intense gothic chants.

Overall, I am hoping that the season will pick up. I have faith in the genius of Stone and Parker and I don’t think they’ve run out of messages or funny ways to deliver them. Let’s just call the last two episodes freebies and stay tuned for more dick/fart jokes that turn into intelligent comments on society at 9 p.m. this Wednesday on Comedy Central.

Lauren Davidson is a junior English major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

CAMPUS | ACADEMICS

Search starts for African-American studies director

Candidates to visit in April; position hoped to be filled by fall

By Ashley Mefford
Senior Campus Reporter

ANITA SHELTON | HEAD OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE



"We see this position as drawing on and including all colleges and departments on campus."

A new coordinator/director of African-American studies may be named.

A search committee is currently being conducted and Anita Shelton, head of the search committee, said review of the applications begins at the end of this month.

Shelton is also chair of the History Department.

Michael Loudon is currently the acting coordinator of African-American studies. Loudon has held the position since August 2006. He feels most Americans are far too arrogant and ignorant in their views of the rest of the world.

"We are generally far too self-

ish relative to others in the world – and lazy. We would rather shop than learn," Loudon said. "We're coyotes, always hungry for what has already been killed."

The African-American Studies Program at Eastern focuses on the heritage and culture of African-Americans in the United States and Africa.

"The discipline of African-American Studies offers critical thinking, a course of study that restores heart and soul to American higher education," Loudon said. "It is integral to reflection and to study of American culture."

Shelton said candidates for the

position are scheduled to come to campus in April.

"The committee deliberates on all the candidates' qualifications and on all feedback, and asks the chair to make a recommendation to the dean," Shelton said. "In the end, the provost is the only person on campus with the authority to send a letter of offer to a candidate."

This position would require working with Asian-American Studies, Latin American Studies and Women's Studies.

The search committee for the Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Global Diversity, who would also serve as the Coordina-

tor of the African-American Studies Program, includes coordinators from those areas: Robert Petersen, coordinator of Asian-American studies, and co-coordinator Jinhee Lee; Carlos Amaya, coordinator of Latin American studies; and Suzanne Enck-Wazner, coordinator of women's studies.

"The new coordinator would manage all of these groups," Amaya said. "They would make sure all the groups come together."

Others on the committee include Loudon, Mona Davenport, representing Minority Affairs, and Kevin Anderson from the Political Science Department.

Loudon said knowing about different cultures and bringing awareness to them is crucial.

"Students will not be adequately prepared for the real world after college if they have not experienced some of these cultural differences," Loudon said. "In the near future the majority will become the minority."

The new coordinator of African-American studies will not only work to bring awareness about African-American culture, but Asian-American studies, Latin American studies and women's studies, as well.

Enck-Wazner is standing in for Dagni Bredesen and Loudon is also an English professor.

Loudon teaches an English class each semester, and if a new coordinator is named, she will go back to teaching English full-time.

"We see this position as drawing on and including all colleges and departments on campus," Shelton said.

The position is set to be filled for the fall semester.

"That is our hope, but we are more interested in finding an outstanding candidate for the position than in meeting a deadline," Shelton said.

Ashley Mefford can be reached at 581-7942 or almefford@eiu.edu.

» Court

FROM PAGE 1

Director of Campus Recreation Ken Baker was the adviser for the court until he became the interim athletic director on Aug. 21. Lynette Drake, director of Student Health Services, was later appointed as Baker's replacement.

She was the only volunteer and no decision has been made regarding next year's adviser, Nadler said.

Courts effective elsewhere

Illinois State University does not resolve student activities issues with a Student Supreme Court.

"Judicial authority here is rooted in Community Rights and Responsibilities in the Dean of Students Office," said Rick Olshak, adviser of Student Government at ISU.

Student Government reviews and approves all students selected for the committees within the department and for the Student Affairs' Appeal Appeals Board.

"(Community Rights and Responsibilities) has authority over all student discipline, including academic and social misconduct and

involving both individuals and student organizations," Olshak said.

He said about 20 cases involving student organizations have been dealt with so far this year. Eastern's Student Supreme Court has dealt with none.

The court at Eastern; however, only has an adviser and six justices appointed to it. The court does not hear issues of academic disputes or social misconduct, but has yet to hear a case pertaining to student organizations other than the senate.

"My opinion is that I prefer student review," Olshak said. "I have always found students to be exceptionally fair, and it has also been my experience at four different institutions that students are actually tougher on students than faculty and staff are."

He said his opinion comes from his work as associate dean of students and working in the disciplinary office for nine years.

Court reborn in 2007

The court at Eastern was inoperative for six years until an election discrepancy forced then Student Body President Sean Anderson to reform the court.

Senate candidates Tori Frazier and Chris Kromphardt lost their 2006 elections by small margins and contested the elections, but the court was not available to hear the matter.

In April 2007, Anderson claimed the court met weekly to review senate activities to ensure constitutional boundaries were kept.

Before then, the court last met in November 2001 to settle an appointment controversy. Student Executive Vice President Daryl Jones told the court his appointees to the Charleston City Council were unconstitutionally rejected.

He claimed the senate gave him an ultimatum to reappoint the incumbent liaison or no appointees would be approved. He said the state reasons for rejection were unwritten rules and violations of the constitution.

The court voted 3-2 that Jones' case did not warrant a hearing. It said Jones was using circumstantial and implied evidence to support his accusations.

Anderson said, at a minimum, current court activity should be oriented around the activities of the student executive board.

COURT TIMELINE

- **November 2001:** Court meets to decide a City Council appointment issue.
- **December 2006:** Two Student Senate races are contested. There's no court to hear the complaints.
- **April 2007:** Court is reformed with six justices.

The executive board should not be controlled by groups of friends and the court is a way to prevent such control, Anderson said.

"The need for it is this, the only accountability is *The Daily Eastern News*' writing," Anderson said. "There are a lot of people who may feel that executive board members aren't doing their job, but there's nowhere to go with the concern."

"The court is a way to keep them accountable, because six people (the student government executive board) are sitting there getting their educations paid for," Anderson said.

Rick Kambic can be reached at 581-7942 or at rwkambic@eiu.edu.

» Capital

FROM PAGE 1

"It's really a volunteer-driven group," she said. "It's a financial commitment. It's a time commitment, and we would consider it to be a honor to be a part of that group."

Evans added an external source might be brought in to advise the committee, and to advise the office, the deans and whoever else might be internally involved throughout the campaign as well.

Eastern's last philanthropic campaign was in 2003. That year, the office engineered a three-year minicampaign, with a goal to raise \$10 million. The "You are EIU" campaign, which concluded in June 2006, ended up raising \$11 million.

Evans said the upcoming campaign's success depends on the effort of the entire university. She added she is optimistic that it will be successful.

"We are all rowing down the river toward the same goals," Evans said. "It's an exciting time."

Stephen Di Benedetto can be reached at 581-7942 or at sdibenedetto@eiu.edu.

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LOCAL | CONSTRUCTION

Residents welcome Fourth Street repairs

Plans to repave street,
sidewalk encouraged
by local tenantsBy Rob Siebert
Staff Reporter

Motorists may be tempted to drive more aggressively once the upcoming construction on Fourth Street is finished in December.

After the road has been widened to 26 feet and resurfaced between Polk and Madison avenues, drivers on the road will likely begin to drive faster, said Curt Buescher, director of Charleston Public Works.

However, Buescher said that making the road safer for cars to drive on would be worth it.

"We can't leave the roads rough just so we can keep the traffic slow," Buescher said.

Interim Charleston Police Chief Mark Jenkins said that Fourth Street will not be patrolled more aggressively for speeders, as the pedestrian traffic in that area is not as substantial as it is south of Lincoln Avenue.

Jenkins said that if numerous accidents occur on Fourth Street after the construction, the department would re-evaluate the situation.

In addition to widening and

CURT BUESCHER | DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

"It's just an old, old street. It's been around for many years. I don't even know when it was worked on last."

resurfacing the street, the city will also install new sidewalks and a new barrier curb.

Even though the widening of the road will force the city to cut into certain yards, some Fourth Street residents are happy to see it smoothed over.

"It needs to be redone," said Mike Serafin, an Eastern chemistry graduate student who lives on Fourth Street. "There are a lot of holes and cracks in the road."

Stacy Hackett, who has lived on Fourth Street for two years, said she is not entirely in favor of the resurfacing because of the faster drivers.

Nonetheless, she is pleased with the city's negotiations with residents.

"As long as the city follows through, I see no reason to worry," she said.

The resurfacing and widening of Fourth Street is a project that has been in the works since 2002 because of the numerous cracks and patches

in the road.

The road's instability can be attributed primarily to its age.

"It's just an old, old street," Buescher said. "It's been around for many years. I don't even know when it was worked on last."

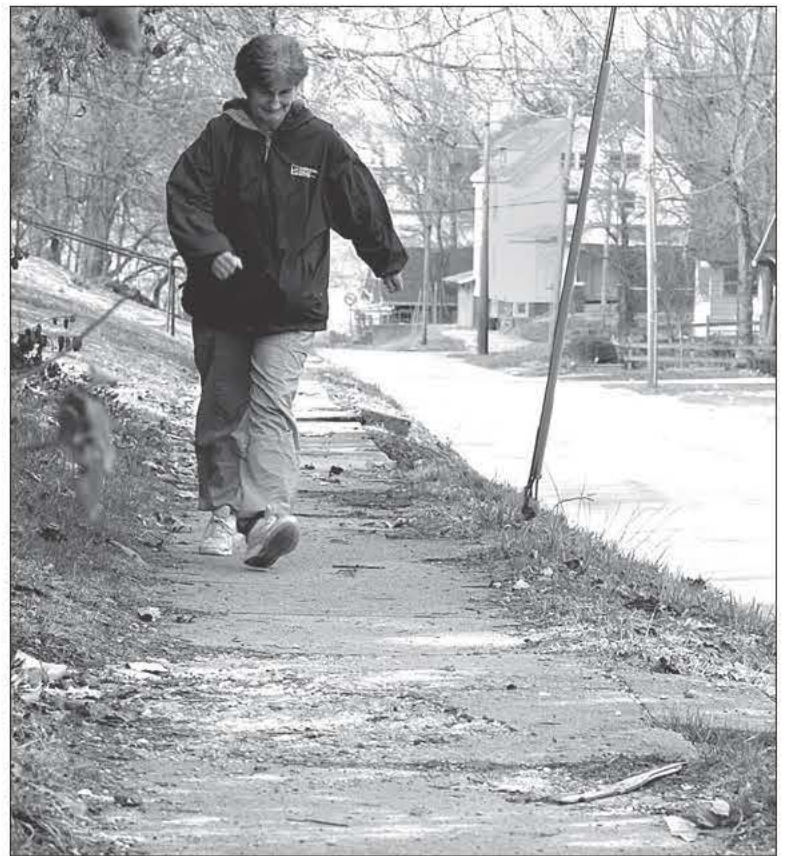
Buescher said the importance of Fourth Street should not be underestimated, as numerous drivers coming from south of Charleston use it when they travel north toward Champaign. The street's average daily traffic is also high.

The city is tentatively looking to improve conditions on 20th Street between Woodfall South and Garfield Avenue.

But Buescher said those plans could easily change, depending on the city's priorities.

If approved, construction on 20th Street would not begin until 2011.

Rob Siebert can be reached at 581-7945 or at rsiebert@eiu.edu.



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Charleston resident Peggy McInerney walks south down Fourth Street Monday afternoon on the sidewalks between Polk and Madison avenues. "I don't like coming down this route just because it is so bad, but I did just because I know it," she said.

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Catcher

FROM PAGE 12

Derbak was named a Louisville Slugger All-American and awarded with Second Team All-Ohio Valley Conference and OVC All-Freshman Team honors following a season in which he hit .301 with 24 RBIs.

He also earned five saves and compiled a 6.82 ERA in 33 innings pitched.

This year he's made the transition from the field and mound to behind the plate.

Schmitz said he sometimes looks back to the time when catcher was the biggest question mark on the team and is pleased with how the situation turned out.

"I'm hard to please," Schmitz said. "But I think what Richie's done just coming out – never caught before – it's kind of amazing."

Schmitz said Derbak's transition to a catcher has been slow. The biggest adjustment, he said, was for Derbak to have the right mentality behind the plate.

"I think the one thing about (catching), you never can take a pitch off," Schmitz said. "Richie's learned the hard way from either a bad at bat and how he's catching or something happened in the field that got him a little off his calmness. You can't be too up or too down (catching)."

Derbak caught six of Eastern's eight games during spring break and threw out five of 11 on base stealers, and had only two passed balls. Schmitz said Derbak's play during

2008 CATCHERS BIOS

- **Richie Derbak**
•Bats/Throws: Left/Right
•Height: 6-1
•Weight: 180
•High School: Trenton-Wesclin (Lebanon, Ill.)
- **Ben Thoma**
•Bats/Throws: Right/Right
•Height: 6-2
•Weight: 195
•High School: Columbia
- **Bart Thyer**
•Bats/Throws: Left/Right
•Height: 6-3
•Weight: 205
•High School: Andrew (Tinley Park)

the spring break trip to Florida was an improvement from Eastern's first two weekend series.

Derbak had two passed balls in each series.

"The neat part is he really knows it's every inning or every game he's going to have to figure out what's going on and get better," Schmitz said. "The neat thing really is he really, really wants to do it. We talk about being selfless and team-oriented. He really is."

Derbak said he still tries to work and get better every day in his new position. He said one of his biggest strengths is the ability to relate to Eastern's pitching staff.

"I pitch, too, and just understanding what (the pitchers are) going through up there, I know it

2008 CATCHER STATS

Name	GP-GS	AB	H	BA	R	RBIs
•Richie Derbak	17-16	57	21	.368	9	14
•Ben Thoma	10-9	29	8	.276	4	3
•Bart Thyer	7-0	9	1	.111	0	2

can be tough and frustrating," Derbak said.

Schmitz said an important attribute for catchers to have is the ability to be a leader on the field.

"He knows baseball in and out," Schmitz said. "He can jump on a pitcher's butt and chew them out. When he jumps on a pitcher or talks to them, there's a lot of respect."

Mechanically, Derbak has the necessary skills to be a good catcher, and he said it helps he was a quarterback in high school.

"Throwing a football is like throwing like a catcher," Derbak said. "Coach always tells me that. The way catchers throw, you really need to short arm the ball. Throwing like a quarterback."

Derbak has also made two pitching appearances this season, and Eastern has two freshmen backups for when Derbak is on the mound or needs a day off.

One experienced, one new

Freshmen Ben Thoma and Bart Thyer are Derbak's backups this season.

"It helps having Ben and Bart back there to be able to give me a day off every other day instead of every day catching," Derbak said. "That makes it a lot easier on me."

Thoma was a four-year letter winner at Columbia High School, was named the 2007 Class A Player of the Year by the Illinois High School Baseball Association and helped lead Columbia to the 2007 Illinois High School Association Class A state title.

"Ben is a guy who obviously came with a lot of recognition," Schmitz said. "(He's) a very offensive catcher."

When he is not catching, Thoma has served as Eastern's designated hitter in some games and is hitting .276 in 10 games this season.

"I'm not hitting as good as I wish I was right now," Thoma said. "It's just a matter of getting comfortable up there. I'm seeing a lot better pitching. I'm kind of relying on bat speed right now. I've got to work on situation hitting."

Behind the plate, Schmitz said the main thing Thoma needs to work on is being more of a leader on the field.

"He's a very quiet," Schmitz said. "The thing that (Derbak) has on that side of the ledger – knowing how to control pitchers, knowing how to lead them (and) motivate them – Ben needs a lot of work in that area."

Thoma said controlling the field

as a freshman when all the other players are older is one of the aspects of his game he finds tough.

"This is all pretty new," Thoma said. "In high school, I pretty much knew all the guys and I was friends with them for a while."

Despite the challenges and a minor setback with a shoulder injury, Thoma said he is benefiting from playing right away.

"Before the season, (the coaching staff) told me I was definitely going to get some playing time, but I didn't think I'd be starting right away," he said.

Thyer had a different route to catcher. Schmitz said he primarily played second base and third base at Andrew High School in Tinley Park. Thyer's played in seven games, all in a reserve role.

Schmitz said it is important to have three catchers on the roster.

"We need someone if we get in that situation where Richie has to pitch," he said. "We feel very confident by how (Thyer has) gone in there and done well. That just obviously says how hard he's worked the past six months. It's been good to see that."

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or srrichey@eiu.edu.

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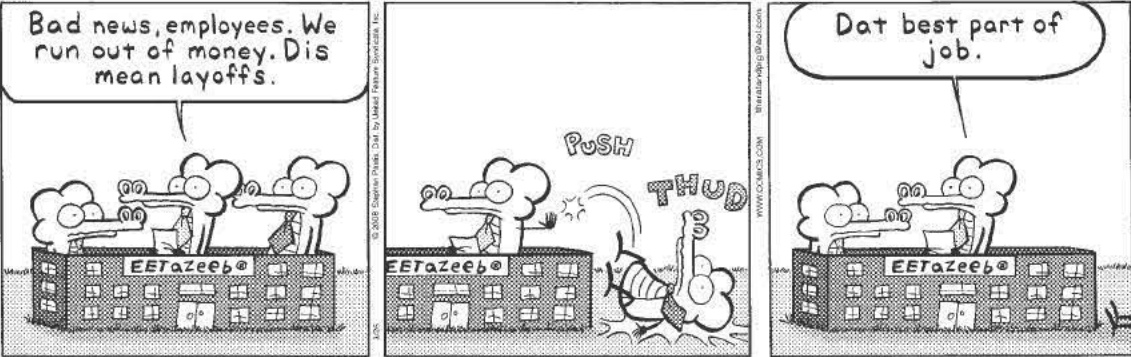
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PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | BY STEPHAN PASTIS



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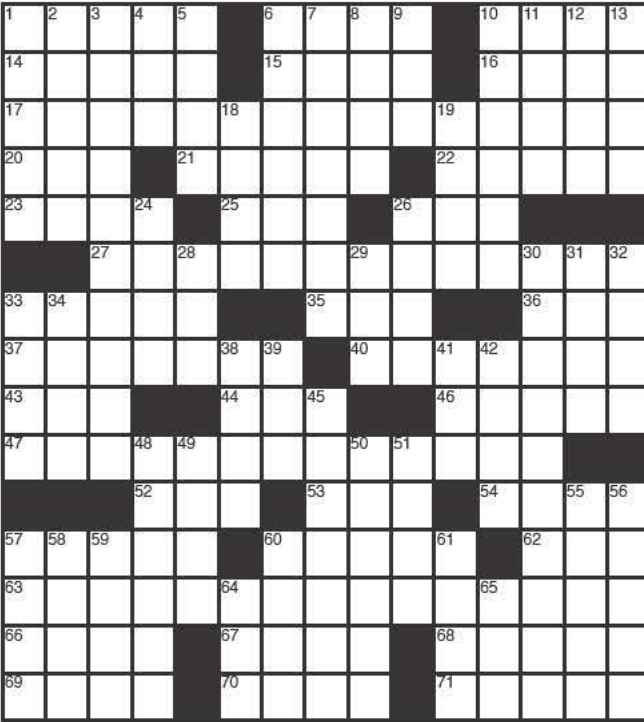


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0212

- ACROSS
- 1 Olympics prize
 - 6 "Zounds!"
 - 10 "In your dreams!"
 - 14 Vega of "Spy Kids" movies
 - 15 Marilyn Monroe facial mark
 - 16 It may be tempted
 - 17 Reminisce about a nice facial outline?
 - 20 "I'll take that as "
 - 21 Cartoon villain Badenov
 - 22 Gangsters' gals
 - 23 Ambassador's forte
 - 25 Nada
 - 26 Sidney Poitier title role
 - 27 Reminisce about spring cleaning?
 - 33 "Daggers" look
 - 35 Rap sheet letters
 - 36 Trifling amount
 - 37 Common breakfast fare
 - 40 Tense subject?
 - 43 Brit. record label
 - 44 Catchword of 6-Down
 - 46 Wise up
 - 47 Reminisce about working in a restaurant?
- DOWN
- 52 Pool tool
 - 53 Messenger
 - 54 Starch-yielding palm
 - 57 Santa _____, California city, county or river
 - 60 Not spoken
 - 62 Buddhist sect
 - 63 Reminisce about a pig-out?
 - 66 Census data
 - 67 Jungle menaces
 - 68 Minister's home
 - 69 Physiques, informally
 - 70 Cathedral area
 - 71 Like dessert wines



PUZZLE BY DEB AMLEN

- 12 "___ be a cold day in hell ..."
- 13 Honoraria
- 18 U2 frontman
- 19 Skip
- 24 Time in a seat
- 26 Mark permanently
- 28 Middling grade
- 29 Heart chart, for short
- 30 People rival
- 31 Wing it?
- 32 Roll of the dice, maybe
- 33 Attendee
- 34 Poor, as an excuse
- 38 Having the resources
- 39 Postgraduate study
- 41 Boxer Laila
- 42 Department store department
- 45 Salsa percussion
- 48 Unlike this answer
- 49 Waikiki wingding
- 50 As a precaution
- 51 Follow, as a suspect
- 55 Honkers
- 56 Get-go
- 57 Kvetching sort
- 58 Toy block brand
- 59 Got 100 on
- 60 'Vette roof option
- 61 Parts of a drum kit
- 64 Home for Bulls, but not Bears: Abbr.
- 65 Like a new recruit

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



For answers, ca 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, w th a cred t card, 1-800-814-5554. Annua subscr pt ons are ava ble for the best of Sunday crosswords from the ast 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. On ne subscr pt ons: Today's puzz e and more than 2,000 past puzz es, nyt mes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share t ps: nyt mes.com/puzz eforum. Crosswords for young so vers: nyt mes.com/ earn ng/xwords.

» Murphy

FROM PAGE 12

"It's going to be interesting around the league," SEMO head softball coach Lana Richmond said. "No one's dominating right now. It's going to be a very competitive down the home stretch. Each conference game is going to be critical. Each conference game is a challenge."

It's true. While the Panthers and Jacksonville State are 4-1 in the OVC and tied for second, only Eastern Kentucky (5-1) has a better league record.

No one team has a dominating pitcher or a dominant position player.

This bodes well for the Panthers who don't have marquee players but have players who help them win games.

And winning games is important. Especially in conference play.

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmurphy@eiu.edu.

TEAM RECORDS

Team	OV
Eastern Kentucky	5-1
Eastern Illinois	4-1
Jacksonville State	4-1
Tennessee Tech	3-2
Morehead State	2-2
Samford	3-3
Tennessee State	2-2
Southeast Missouri	2-5
Tennessee-Martin	1-3
Austin Peay	1-4

SOFTBALL | EASTERN AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

Panthers hope to continue hot ways

Eastern plays critical OVC games

By Kevin Murphy
Associate Sports Editor

Eastern wants to continue its fast start in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Panthers will be able to do that today against Southeast Missouri.

Eastern plays the Redhawks at 3 p.m. in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Eastern Head Coach Kim Schuette said last week the Panthers (8-11, 4-1 OVC) were concerned with the conference games.

Last season, the Panthers lost their first five conference games. They only won three of nine conference series games. The Panthers finished 23-21 and 9-16 in the Ohio Valley Conference.

This season the Panthers have already their first two conference series. They took two of three at Tennessee State, and won two games against Austin Peay.

Schuette said he team takes one game at a time.

"They don't take anybody lightly," Schuette said. "Our record will take care of itself."

Eastern's game against SEMO (11-16, 1-5) could prove to be an interesting one with both teams playing different styles.

Eastern plays a small-ball game,



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern sophomore shortstop Megan Nelson slides into an Austin Peay player during Friday's game at Williams Field. The Panthers will play Southeast Missouri at 3 p.m. today in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

while SEMO is the direct opposite as the Redhawks rely heavily on power hitting. SEMO has 25 home runs, and Eastern only has six.

The Panthers have eight sacrifice flies and 20 sacrifice bunts. The Redhawks have one sacrifice fly and 13 sacrifice bunts.

"(The Panthers) do a lot of things right," SEMO head coach Lana Richmond said. "They execute the short game."

Schuette said SEMO senior pitcher Elaine Fisher would give the Panthers trouble because Fisher is a tough left-handed pitcher. The Panthers have not seen a left-handed pitcher all season.

Fisher (6-10) has a 2.33 ERA and has struck out 85 batters in 108 innings.

Fisher, though, is 1-3 in the OVC and has a 4.15 ERA in conference games with 13 strikeouts in 31 innings.

"She doesn't walk many batters," Richmond said. "Her control is very good."

Fisher has given up just 26 walks in 21 appearances this season.

Both teams were able to see one another when they competed at the Florida Atlantic Tournament. The two teams also played against common opponents.

Eastern lost to Florida Gulf Coast

2-1 in eight innings, and SEMO lost to the Eagles, 5-0. Eastern defeated Bethune Cookman, 8-0, and SEMO defeated them 4-0. But SEMO also lost to Bethune Cookman, 5-2 in nine innings.

"(The Panthers are) very sound defensively," Richmond said. "It should be a good game."

Southeast Missouri leads the all-time series 28-18. Eastern won two-of-three games against Southeast Missouri last season with 11-7 and 3-2 victories. The Redhawks beat Eastern once, 5-2, last year.

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmurphy@eiu.edu.

» Baseball

FROM PAGE 12

Schmitz attributed the Salukis' ability to get on base to the discipline they show at the plate.

"They're going to wait for their pitch, and that makes you a good hitter," Schmitz said. "That by itself says a lot about their hitting approach. It's very disciplined. We definitely know we're going to have to pitch well."

That responsibility falls to Kehrer. The New Baden native has pitched in five games this season and started two. He is 0-3 with an 11.37 earned run average.

"I'm just going to try and go up there, get my work in, throw strikes and hopefully get a win," Kehrer said.

Schmitz said Kehrer is struggling

EASTERN PROBABLE STARTERS

Pos.	Name
•2B	J. Tokarz
•LF	C. Restko
•CF	B. Nommensen
•DH	Z. Skidmore
•SS	J. Kreke
•C	R. Derbak
•1B	T. Facer
•3B	S. Estand
•RF	R. Lindquist
•P	T. Kehrer

with his command and the game against Southern would be a good test for Kehrer because of the Salukis' hitting ability.

"(The Salukis) know by the scouting report that he struggles," Schmitz said. "They're going to force him to throw strikes. If we're playing a free-swinging team, Tyler might

have results but he might not have pitched well. If he has good results against this team, then we definitely feel he's making the strides he needs to be one of our top arms."

Schmitz said Kehrer has made improvements throwing his fastball down in the strike zone and in his pick off move to first base, but there is still room for improvement.

"He needs to get that second and third pitch over a little bit more consistent," Schmitz said. "They can sit on his fastball. Those guys pitching for us are those guys throwing strikes. (Today's game) will be a good test for him."

Eastern sophomore catcher Richie Derbak, Kehrer's high school teammate and now battery mate, said Kehrer has a good repertoire of pitches.

"All of his pitches are good," Der-

bak said. "If he can locate, he can shut just about anyone down."

Kehrer said he has focused his mechanics work on getting ahead in the count and throwing strikes.

"Last game I threw a lot better strikes I thought and a lot more strikes than before," Kehrer said. "I'm starting to extend and not short-arming it. I'm starting to get a feel for my curveball, and everything's starting to feel better."

Schmitz said Kehrer has done a better job this season handling bad outings. He said Kehrer's maturity has improved on the mound.

"Pitching is feeling," Schmitz said. "It's a feel position, and I think he has a better feel for making corrections during a course of the game. We wish all freshmen came in and all threw strikes and all threw 90, but it's a growing up process for him. I

think he's definitely showed that."

Derbak said Kehrer is composed on the mound.

"He really doesn't show a lot of emotion," Derbak said. "I'm sure he gets upset, but he really doesn't show it, which is a good thing when things go bad and we make mistakes behind him."

Schmitz said how the Panthers play during their two mid-week games would signify how the team has progressed.

"How we play against (Southern and Illinois State on Wednesday) says if we're getting better or not," Schmitz said. "We're a little bit more confident winning (six) of eight. The gut check is Thursday, how good are we?"

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or srrichey@eiu.edu.

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ALL ACCESS WITH TRISTAN FACER

Evansville transfer at home on the mound and at first base

Tristan Facer is pulling off a rare pair of doubles this year. First, he’s both a senior and a newcomer to the baseball program as a transfer from Evansville. Second, when he’s not on the mound as Eastern’s No. 1 starting pitcher he’s in the everyday lineup as a first baseman. The 6-foot-4 lefty hurler recently sat down with Staff Reporter Mike Mears to discuss how he handles his dual roles, how he would pitch to himself and running the wrong direction in tee-ball.

Why did you transfer from Evansville to Eastern?

Well, to be honest, the coach and I there had our disagreements. It was just a better fit for me baseball-wise (at Eastern). There wasn’t really anything more to it for me than that.

What do you like about the Eastern coaching staff?

They definitely are very open to a lot of new things. They knew that I’m coming in as a senior with a lot of experience. So they left a lot of decisions and a lot of choices up to me. They haven’t really pushed me too much to do a certain thing their way. They kind of let me do my own thing.

What’s it like being a newcomer as a senior?

I’ve been to three schools in three years, so I’m pretty used to the whole newcomer thing. The big thing is that the younger kids do look up to you. With me being at Evansville, we had a pretty good team last year, so a lot of people have asked me questions about it or turned to me for leadership just because I’ve been there and already done the Division I thing as opposed to a freshman coming out of high school. The only really big thing is that I have to get to know the guys again. Everyone knows I have the talent to play at this level and that I’ve proved myself already, so it’s basically knowing the guys and getting their respect.

How do you balance being a pitcher and a hitter?

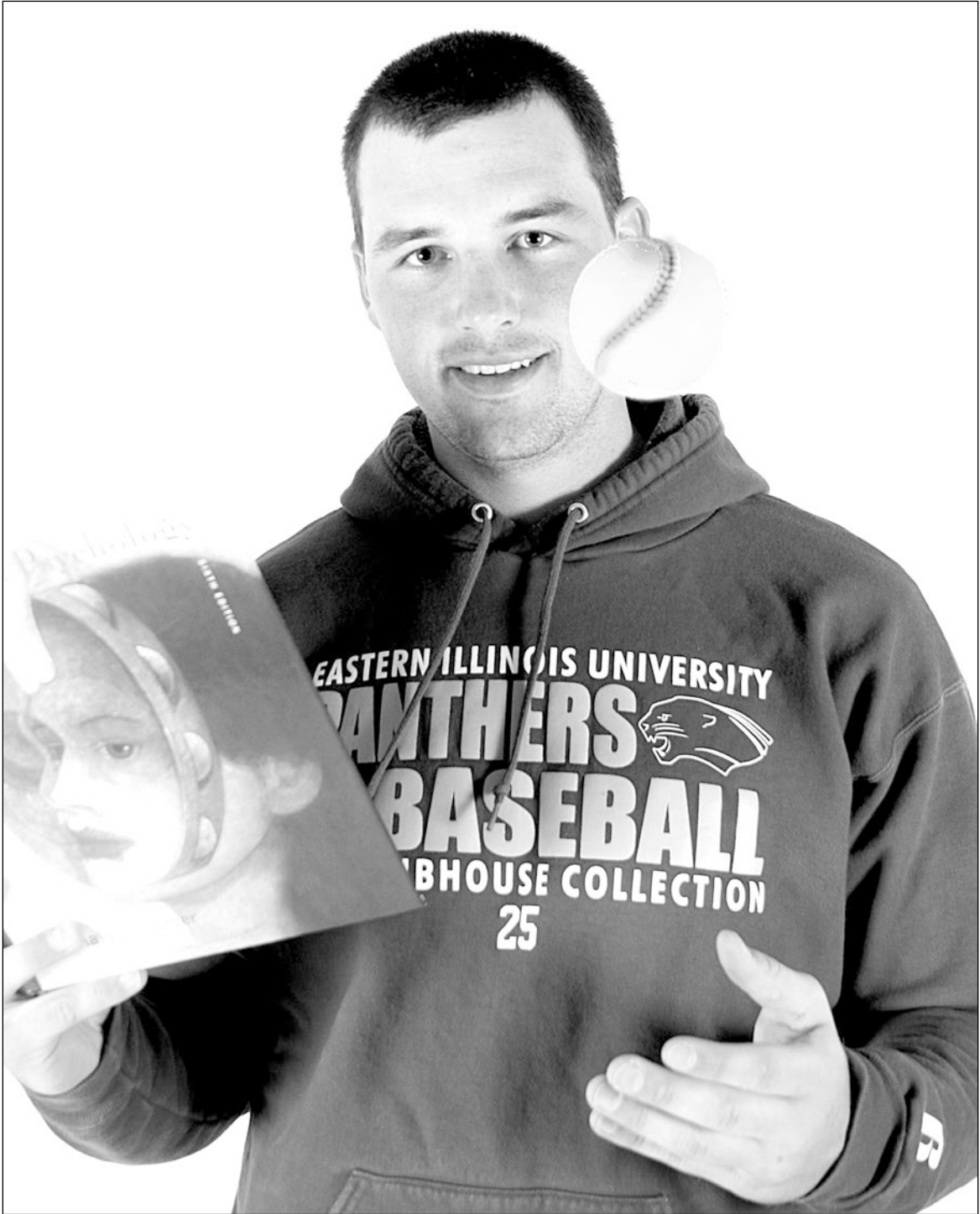
To be honest, it’s a little bit tough to juggle both of those. You know, as a pitcher you’re expected to do all of your drill work – all of the running and what-not. As a hitter, you’ve got to focus all of your time on hitting and fielding. It’s a juggling act. You have to stay after practice and do your pitching work. You have to jump in when you can. You can’t sit back and be passive about it. You have to take control and use your time wisely, or you won’t be good at either one.

Pitching or hitting. Which one would you choose?

Hitting, for sure. I like hitting a lot better than pitching, but I do enjoy pitching. But hitting, I get to be out there every day.

How does your mental game change as a pitcher?

Days I’m pitching, I usually don’t hit. Some days I have hit for myself, but usually I’m not hitting. It’s pretty different because usually I’m out there taking grounders, taking batting practice. So to be honest, it’s relaxing. I don’t have to worry about hitting, taking infield. I get to relax until 45 minutes before game time.



MOLLY CLUTTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior first baseman and pitcher transferred to Eastern from Evansville and is now the Panthers’ No. 1 pitcher and starting first baseman when he’s not on the mound. Facer is 2-0 with a 4.23 earned run average and 21 strikeouts in five appearances this season. He is also hitting .241 with four hits and two runs in 29 at bats.

It lets me focus my thoughts a little better. It’s a lot easier when you know you just have to go throw.

What was your best outing so far this year?

When we were in Florida I started two games. The first one, I went eight innings and gave up one earned run. The second start, I went seven innings and gave up four runs. Both of those, I got wins, but I did have probably my best strikeout stuff on Friday (against Morehead State). I hadn’t struck out that many (eight) until then, so hopefully that will stick with me.

What works best when you’re getting strikeouts?

It basically comes down to my breaking balls. If I can consistently throw the curveball and changeup for strikes, that’s going to allow me to strike out more batters. My fastball’s always been my go-to, but after a few times through the order they get to time you up, and

it’s not as effective if you can’t throw those breaking balls for strikes.

How do you see your role on the pitching staff?

As I’ve always been a two-way player, I’ve usually come out of the bullpen. I’ve never really had a main role on the pitching staff. But this year, the coaches came up to me and said I needed to be the No. 1 on this team. I’ve worked pretty hard and tried to gain the respect of the other guys on the staff, let them know I’m going to work as hard as they do, if not harder, to be the No. 1. I really want the ball in my hands in that first game (of a weekend series), so that I can prove it to the team that I should be out there and get a win that first day.

Is it hard to gain the respect of the other pitchers?

It is tough because they don’t always see you working. That’s the main thing. They may have left

practice, and you may still be there, or you may work on your own outside of practice. You do as much work as they do. The guys this year are really good about it. They know what I’ve got. By no means am I the best pitcher on the staff, but it just happens that I get to be that Friday night guy, the go-to guy.

How would you pitch to yourself?

I’d like to say I’d intentionally walk myself because I’d be so scared. To be honest, (I’d) probably stay away from me with a lot of outside fastballs. If I got ahead in the count, I’d probably throw a fastball up and in. That’s my huge weakness.

How do you interact with your Champaign teammates?

We’re kind of far apart in age, but there’s still some healthy trash-talking going on. My senior year we beat both Centennial (High School)

and Central (High School), so I’m still pretty proud of that. I rub that in every now and then. I’m sure Urbana this year will kick both Central and Centennial’s (butts).

Which rival high school did you want to beat more?

(Champaign) Central. When I was growing up, I played on a Champaign-Urbana traveling team, and a lot of the kids from Central were on that team. Throughout high school, I knew most of them, and it always felt a little bit better to beat those guys.

Did you really run the wrong way in your first tee-ball game?

It was always my mom and dad telling me about it, but I can totally see that. I was probably just so excited to hit the ball. The one thing I do remember, and I don’t know why I remember this, but I remember always playing shortstop, and wherever the ball was hit I would just run after it. It wouldn’t matter where it was. I just remember seeing the whole team flock after the ball. Whoever got to it first won.

Do you have aspirations to play professional baseball?

I would love to. Out of junior college I got talked to a little bit. They wanted to sign me mainly as a pitcher. Like I said, I enjoy hitting, so I told them don’t even bother. I’m going to go on and play my next two years of college ball. I would love to get drafted. Anyone who plays at the Division I level has some sort of dream to get drafted.

Would you turn down a pitching-only option?

Sign me up. People ask, “Why do you hit?” They see my pitching, I’m a lefty that throws hard and what-not, and they ask why I don’t just do that. I just love to hit. I was raised as a hitter, so I’m just going with hitting until I can’t go any farther.

If not baseball, what are your next plans?

I’m a psychology major, and I’m going to get a minor in business. I probably have two options. My dad is a lawyer, so I’ve been looking at law school. Or real estate. I know a couple of people in the real estate business. I have some interest in both of those. Who knows? It’s always been about baseball, so it’s always kind of been like, “What am I going to do after baseball?”

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BASEBALL | CATCHERS SPOTLIGHT



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore catcher Richie Derbak checks on a potential runner in Friday's game against Morehead State. Derbak is in his first year as Eastern's starting catcher and had never caught prior to this season. Injuries to last year's backup Matt Moore and the transfer of last year's starter Kory Peppenhorst to John A. Logan College has thrust Derbak into his new role.

CATCHING THE WINDS OF CHANGE

Derbak, Thyer both catching for first time this season with good results

By Scott Richey
Sports Editor

Eastern had three catchers last season.

Senior Jason Cobb graduated in May, but that still left two catchers on the roster — until June.

"In one week's time, I had two catchers and then the next day I had none," said Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz. "We're sitting there the end of June going, 'Hey we have no catchers.'"

Sophomore catcher Matt Moore played in 15 games last season, starting six.

But Moore is unavailable behind the plate this season following Tommy John surgery on his right elbow during the summer.

"He's just really rehabbing,"

Schmitz said about Moore. "His arm's (has) not come back to where it gives us that ability to put him behind the plate. We thought maybe he would hit. He wasn't ready to go on Spring Break hitting wise. Arm-wise I think it's a fall away."

Kory Peppenhorst started 41 of the 45 games he played last season as a freshman, but he transferred to John A. Logan College following the season.

Peppenhorst has started all 22 of the games he's played for the Volun-

teers this season as a catcher and designated hitter.

With no catchers on the roster, Schmitz had to look elsewhere for Eastern's new field general.

All-American makes position switch

Sophomore Richie Derbak primarily played second base, first base and was Eastern's closer during the 2007 season.

» SEE CATCHER, PAGE 7

BASEBALL | EASTERN VS. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Eastern to face tough Salukis

Southern's roster boasts nine players with .300 or higher batting average

By Scott Richey
Sports Editor

Eastern sophomore pitcher Tyler Kehrer will face a challenge when the Panthers play Southern Illinois at 2 p.m. today at Coaches Stadium.

The lefthander will start for Eastern and face a veteran Southern lineup with several dangerous hitters

The Salukis' lineup has six players with a batting average higher than .300, and Southern has a .298 team batting average.

Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz said Southern not only has good hitters, but they also don't strike out much. The Salukis (10-8, 2-1 Missouri Valley Conference) have 93 strikeouts in 18 games, or an average of about five strikeouts per game.

Eastern (8-9, 3-0 Ohio Valley Conference) has 98 strikeouts in 17 games, or an average of about six strikeouts per game.

"Very rarely do you see guys get-

ting on as well as they do," Schmitz said about the Salukis. "They have the little guys in the lineup to get on and the big guys to knock them in."

Southern also gets on base by working the count and drawing walks. Four Southern batters have drawn double-digit walks this season.

"You don't see that a lot — guys that are really doing a great job of walking," Schmitz said. "It's definitely a statistic we brought up (Monday) at our staff meeting."

» SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 10



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore pitcher Tyler Kehrer winds up to throw in Saturday's game against Morehead State. Kehrer is 0-3 this season with an 11.37 earned run average and will be the starting pitcher against Southern Illinois at 2 p.m. today.

NATIONAL SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

NBA: Atlanta at Chicago |
7:30 tonight on Comcast SportsNet

MEN'S HOCKEY

NHL: Detroit at St. Louis |
7:30 tonight on Fox Sports Midwest



KEVIN MURPHY

Fast start can help

It's still early, but the Eastern softball is in prime position if it wants to make the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

The Panthers missed the OVC Tournament last season after they started out 1-5 in conference games.

This season, the Panthers (8-11, 4-1 OVC) have started out strong winning two series against OVC opponents.

Granted, two of the conference wins have come against Austin Peay, which will be a league bottom dweller. The two other wins came against Tennessee State, a team that looks to be no better than middle of the pack.

The softball team is drawing comparisons to the Eastern women's basketball team, and head softball coach Kim Schuette is making those connections.

Schuette said she tried to take a page from Eastern head women's basketball coach Brady Sallee.

Sallee scheduled difficult non-conference games as the women's basketball team went 2-7 in the non-conference season. The women's basketball team won its first five conference games and finished in a three-way tie for second place in the OVC with a 15-5 record en route to a runner-up finish in the OVC title game.

"They never got too high, too low," Schuette said. "But they had to come back to work the next day. It's kind of a similar philosophy we're taking. Conference, we're supposed to battle our way to win."

Last season, the softball team lost its first five conference games, and they won just three of nine conference series. The Panthers finished 23-21 and 9-16 in the OVC.

The Panthers' solid start in OVC play this season is a step in the right direction. It is better to win early than wait for other teams to lose. All that does is guarantee a stressful end to the regular season as teams face win or loss the tournament scenarios.

But through two weekend series, the Panthers have themselves in prime position to do well in each conference game.

But each conference game is going to be a challenge.

Schuette isn't the only coach to think so.

» SEE MURPHY, PAGE 10

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

BASEBALL

Today vs. Southern Illinois |
2 p.m. — Coaches Stadium

SOFTBALL

Today at Southeast Missouri (DH) |
3 p.m. — Cape Girardeau, Mo.

BASEBALL

Wednesday at Illinois State |
3 p.m. — Normal

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Thursday at Morehead State |
9 a.m. — Morehead, Ky.

MEN'S TENNIS

Thursday at Morehead State |
9 a.m. — Morehead, Ky.